

HOUSE No. 934

By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, petition of Harold P. Naughton, Jr. for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the standards by which counsels for indigent persons are appointed in the Commonwealth. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY OF THE STANDARDS BY WHICH INDIGENT COUNSELS ARE APPOINTED IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Resolved*, That a special commission consisting of two mem-
2 bers of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives,
3 two members of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, the Chair
4 of the House Committee on Ways and Means or his designee, the
5 Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means or his
6 designee, one justice of the District Court department of the Trial
7 Court, one criminal defense attorney, the President of the Massa-
8 chusetts Academy of Criminal Defense Lawyers or his designee,
9 the Executive Director of the Committee for Public Counsel Serv-
10 ices or his designee, and the President of the Massachusetts Bar
11 Association or his designee, is hereby established for the purpose
12 of making an investigation and study of the standards by which
13 indigent counsels are appointed in the Commonwealth, including
14 but not limited to, the criteria by which justices determine eligi-
15 bility for indigent counsel, the compensation of indigent counsels,
16 and the financial status of any defendant under consideration for
17 appointment of counsel. Said commission shall report to the
18 General Court the results of its investigation and study, and its
19 recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation neces-
20 sary to carry such recommendations into effect by filing the same
21 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on or before the
22 first Wednesday in November, two thousand and four.